

Message Text

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ON "AGRICULTURE-USA" GUIDES

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1. ASIDE FROM TASS WIRE STATEMENTS ON LUPAN AND MASCHIOCCHI CASE, WHICH WERE REPRINTED WIDELY, INDEED ALMOST UNIVERSALLY, IN SOVIET PRESS ON JUNE 6, PARTICULAR NEWSPAPERS HAVE GENERATED THEIR "OWN" ARTICLES ON THE SUBJECT AND INDEED HAVE DEVOTED STRIKINGLY LARGE AMOUNTS OF SPACE TO THIS PARTICULAR PURPOSE. AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, UKRAINIAN PRESS HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY ACTIVE IN THIS REGARD, BUT MOST ATTENTION-GRABBING EFFORT TO DATE WAS FORTY-NINE COLUMN INCH "EXPOSE" ON BACK PAGE OF JUNE 7 "IZVESTIYA", WHICH WAS OF COURSE NOTICED BY U.S. CORRESPONDENTS HERE.

2. ARTICLES WE HAVE SEEN HAVE BEEN MADE UP OF REPEATED EXAMPLES OF ALLEGED GUIDE MISCONDUCT SOURCED TO LETTERS AND OTHER COMPLAINTS FROM PERSONS IDENTIFIED AS HAVING VISITED EXHIBIT, FOLLOWED BY BRIEF SUMMARY OF SOVIET
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ACTIONS LEADING UP TO EXPULSION AND HOMILY ON PURPOSE OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

3. ASIDE FROM SUPPOSED EVIDENCE AS TO GUIDES' "ANTI-SOVIET SLANDER", THERE ARE A COUPLE OF NO DOUBT DELIBERATE MISSTATEMENTS OF FACT. IZVESTIYA SAYS THAT AT MAY 18 MEETING BETWEEN UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES AND

U.S. EXHIBIT AND EMBASSY OFFICIALS, "THE AMERICAN SIDE ACKNOWLEDGED THE CORRECTNESS OF THE FACTS PRESENTED (TO THEM)." THIS WAS DEFINITELY NOT THE CASE, AND EMBASSY SPOKESMAN REJECTED THIS ASSERTION IN COMMENTING ON ARTICLE TO U.S. NEWSMEN. WE ALSO SEE IN "PRAVDA UKRAINY" THAT "THE SOVIET SIDE RECOMMENDED TO ITS AMERICAN PARTNERS THAT STEPS BE TAKEN SO THAT LUPAN AND MASCHIOCCHI WOULD NOT WORK ANY FURTHER ON THE EXHIBIT AND WOULD BE SENT OUT OF THE USSR." AS HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, SOVIETS DID NOT RPT NOT DEMAND OR "RECOMMEND" ON MAY 18 THAT GUIDES BE SENT HOME - ONLY THAT THEY CEASE WORKING ON EXHIBIT FLOOR FOR REMAINDER OF SHOWING PERIOD IN KIEV. PRESUMABLY, THESE FABRICATIONS WERE MERELY INJECTED TO REINFORCE IMPRESSION THAT SOVIETS TOOK DRASTIC STEP OF EXPELLING LUPAN (IN THEORY IF NOT IN ACTUAL FACT) AND MASCHIOCCHI ONLY BECAUSE U.S. SIDE REFUSED TO TAKE ADEQUATE ACTION FOLLOWING MAY 18 MEETING. ARTICLES ALSO ALLEGED THAT TWO GUIDES CONTINUED THEIR SUPPOSEDLY SLANDEROUS AND INFLAMMATORY ACTIVITY AFTER MAY 18 THROUGH END OF EXHIBIT MAY 23. AS WE HAVE REPORTED, BOTH HOWEVER INSIST, AND EXHIBIT MANAGEMENT CORROBORATES, THAT THEY WERE ON BEST BEHAVIOR AFTER HAVING BEEN CAUTIONED IN WAKE OF MAY 18 PRESENTATION BY BUL'VAROV AND COMPANY.

4. SINCE "PRAVDA UKRAINY" ARTICLE CITED ABOVE IS, LIKE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IZVESTIYA PIECE, EXTREMELY LENGTHY (OVER 80 COLUMN INCHES), WE WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE FULL TEXTS HEREWITH. ADDRESSEES, HOWEVER, WILL NO DOUBT APPRECIATE "FLAVOR" OF ARTICLES AND EXAMPLES OF CHARGES LEVELLED BY SOVIETS AGAINST GUIDES.

5. BOTH IZVESTIYA AND PRAVDA UKRAINY LEAD OFF WITH DEPRECATORY REMARKS ABOUT EXHIBIT, WHICH IS CRITICIZED FOR LACK OF PROFESSIONAL CONTENT AND COMPETENT GUIDES. LEAD-IN TO LUPAN/MASCHIOCCHI CHARGES IS THAT "UNPROFESSIONAL" AND "ELEMENTARILY INCOMPETENT" GUIDES, ALTHOUGH UNABLE TO TALK ABOUT AGRICULTURE, DID HAVE VOLUMES TO SAY ABOUT OTHER SUBJECTS. ON LUPAN, MUCH IS MADE OF HIS AND HIS WIFE'S BACKGROUNDS - THEIR FATHERS ARE PORTRAYED AS NAZI COLLABORATORS AND "TRAITORS". LUPAN'S CONNECTION WITH VOA IS ALSO PLAYED UP, AS ARE VOA'S PROMOS FOR LISTENERS TO VISIT EXHIBIT TO MEET HIM. THE SOVIET PRESS, OF COURSE, SEES SINISTER OVERTONES TO THIS.

6. ON LUPAN: IZVESTIYA IS SHORT ON SPECIFICS BUT ACCUSES HIM OF SLANDER, PROVOCATION, AND ANTI-SOVIET

PROPAGANDA. OLGA LUPAN IS CITED AS HELPING HER HUSBAND IN "UNSAVORY ACTIVITIES." PRAVDA UKRAINY HAS LUPAN CRITICIZING SOVIET ELECTORAL SYSTEM, "ILLEGALITY" AND "UNDEMOCRATIC" NATURE. HE IS ACCUSED OF "SPREADING PROVACATORY RUMORS ABOUT MYTHICAL PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS" (NO DOUBT HIS REFERENCES TO GEORGIAN LANGUAGE ISSUE) AND OF ENGAGING IN "FRENZIED NATIONALISTIC PROPAGANDA". EXAMPLES CITED REFER TO UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE USE AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. INDEED, ALTHOUGH DIRECT RELIGIOUS IMPLICATION IS NOT INTENDED, LUPAN IS DESCRIBED AS A "MISSIONARY". HE IS EVEN FAULTED FOR HANDING OUT BALL-

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POINT PENS WITH VOA MONOGRAM AND SCHEDULES OF BROADCASTS. IN SHORT, LUPAN'S SINS SEEM TIED CLOSELY TO HIS SENSITIVITY TO THE NATIONALITIES ISSUE IN THE USSR AND TO HIS ASSOCIATION WITH (A) VOA AND (B) HIS FATHER.

7. MOST OF THE SPECIFIC CHARGES ARE LEVELLED AT MASCHIOCCHI. IN ATTRIBUTING ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE RHETORICAL EXCESSES TO MASCHIOCCHI, SOVIET PRESS IS DRAWING CARICATURE OF CENTRAL-CASTING ANTI-COMMUNIST WHO IS PERVERTING GOALS OF CULTURAL EXCHANGES EXHIBIT FOR IDEOLOGICAL PURPOSES. IZVESTIYA HAS HIM ENGAGING IN "ANTI-SOVIET TIRADES" AND QUOTES HIM AS SAYING "YOU HAVE TO DESTROY (UNICHTOZHIT) THE ENTIRE WORLD'S COMMUNISTS" AND THAT FASCISTS ARE "GOOD PEOPLE". IN PRAVDA UKRAINY, MASCHIOCCHI IS REFERRED TO AS "A MEMBER OF THE U.S. FOREIGN SERVICE" AND "A BUREAUCRAT" (BOTH PRESUMABLY INFERRED FROM HIS LIMITED FS APPOINTMENT FOR

THE DURATION OF THE EXHIBIT). IZVESTIYA IDENTIFIES HIM AS AN ICA FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER. HIS ALLEGED SUMMONS TO "KILL THE COMMUNISTS" IS REPEATED AND AMPLIFIED IN PRAVDA UKRAINY BY A QUOTE ABOUT "FIGHTING THE DISEASE OF COMMUNISM". PRAVDA UKRAINY SUMS UP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MASCHIOCCHI'S ALLEGED EXCESSES AS "PROPAGANDA FOR ULTRAREACTIONARY VIEWS." MASCHIOCCHI IS SAID TO HAVE MADE "CRUDE SLANDEROUS ATTACKS" ON GUS HALL AND LUIS CORVALAN AND IS ALLEGED TO HAVE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO "KILL CORVALAN WITH HIS (MASCHIOCCHI'S) OWN HANDS." MASCHIOCCHI SUPPOSEDLY SAID THAT AMERICAN COMMUNISTS "WANT TO DO WHAT WAS DONE IN THE USSR - ELIMINATE FREEDOMS, CLOSE THE CHURCHES AND KILL THE PRIESTS." ONE LETTER-WRITER IS CITED IN PRAVDA UKRAINY AS CLAIMING THAT MASCHIOCCHI SYMPATHIZED WITH SOVIET VISITORS FOR BEING UNABLE TO READ WORKS BY HITLER, SOLZHENITSYN AND OTHER "GREAT MEN". PAPER SAYS MASCHIOCCHI WAS A FERVENT ADVOCATE OF "THE TRAITORS VLASOV AND SOLZHENITSYN, AND THE BRAZINSKAS BANDITS." HE IS EVEN ACCUSED OF RACISM AGAINST AN ETHIOPIAN STUDENT VISITOR TO THE EXHIBIT AND THEN CASTIGATED FOR IN TURN CALLING SOVIETS RACIST. AND, HE IS SAID TO HAVE JUSTIFIED THE NEUTRON BOMB AND PROCLAIMED HIS WILLINGNESS TO DIE IN AN EXPLOSION OF THIS WEAPON, WHILE ACCUSING SOVIETS OF AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS AND COWARDICE.

8. COMMENT: ONE OBVIOUS AIM OF ARTICLES DESCRIBED ABOVE IS TO DISCREDIT NOT ONLY LUPAN AND MASCHIOCCHI (WHO, AFTER ALL, SEEM TO HAVE BEEN MERELY PEGS ON WHICH TO HANG ALL THIS OVERKILL) BUT EXHIBIT ITSELF AND U.S. CULTURAL EXCHANGE UNDERTAKINGS IN GENERAL. IN THIS CONTEXT, WE FIND TWO THINGS OF NOTE: (A) BOTH IZVESTIYA AND PRAVDA UKRAINY RUN SUB-HEADS OVER THEIR ARTICLES WITH NAME "AGRICULTURE-USA" IN PROMINENT BOLD-FACE TYPE, AND (B) IZVESTIYA, AFTER PHILOSOPHIZING ON GOALS OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE, POINTEDLY CAUTIONS THAT "WITHOUT A DOUBT, THESE GOALS SHOULD ALSO BE SERVED BY THE EXHIBIT 'AGRICULTURE-USA' BEING SHOWN IN OUR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNTRY. ONLY THESE GOALS, AND NONE OTHER. IT IS ALL THE MORE TIMELY TO RECALL IN THIS CONTEXT THAT THE EXHIBIT 'AGRICULTURE-USA' IS PLANNED TO MOVE ON TO OTHER CITIES OF THE USSR ALL THE WAY INTO 1979."

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